



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**NORFOLK DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**FORT NORFOLK 803 FRONT STREET**  
**NORFOLK VIRGINIA 23510-1096**

April 14, 2006

Operations Branch

Churchland Residents  
Portsmouth, VA 23703

Dear Neighbor,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District, wants to take this opportunity to touch base with you regarding mosquito control at the Craney Island Dredged Material Management Area (CIDMMA). Spring has arrived with warmer temperatures and wet weather, which can also result in an increase in the mosquito population. We are continuing to follow a comprehensive management strategy and working diligently to ensure that our objective of reducing the mosquito population at CIDMMA is achieved.

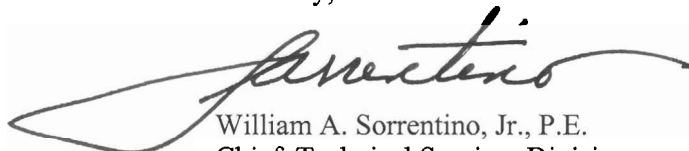
This year we are continuing our aggressive, multi-pronged approach to mosquito control at CIDMMA, incorporating habitat control, larvae control, adult control and surveillance. During the upcoming mosquito season, we will continue with aerial sprayings by both the Air Force and private contractor; use of larvicides such as BTI and Methoprene; and aggressive dewatering and grounds maintenance. We have awarded two mosquito control contracts to implement various surveillance and control measures outlined in our Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM).

Last year, approximately 30 acres were graded and ditched to provide effective drainage and allow for mowing of dense vegetation. By helicopter, a contractor treated the invasive reed, phragmites, with a new herbicide, Habitat®, on ~75 acres on Corps' property and ~28 acres on the adjacent city landfill in order to reduce mosquito breeding habitat. This year we will be increasing our surveillance efforts, going from two adult Center for Disease Control light traps on Corps' property to four on Corps' property and two on the Navy Fuel Depot. All surveillance data will be available on our interactive website, which can be found at: <http://www.nao.usace.army.mil/mosquitoes/>. The website has had a facelift and will continue to be updated throughout the mosquito season.

We are also communicating and coordinating our efforts with the City of Portsmouth and the U.S. Navy to pool our resources and information. Our interagency team has conducted field visits to CIDMMA, the Portsmouth City Landfill, and the U.S. Navy Fuel Depot recently to discuss surveillance and control strategies, and locate potential mosquito breeding habitats. There are links on our website that contain valuable information about what you can do to reduce mosquitoes around your home and neighborhood. It is important that we all work together.

Should you have any additional questions or concerns regarding our ongoing mosquito control initiatives, please contact Mr. Keith Lockwood of my staff at 201-7127.

Sincerely,



William A. Sorrentino, Jr., P.E.  
Chief, Technical Services Division